REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Official Action states that claims 15, 24 and 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Rejections

Claims 11, 16-18, 22, and 23 stand rejected as anticipated by LIN 6,000,713.

Claims 13 and 21 stand rejected as obvious over LIN in view of SATTERFIELD 6,807,690.

Claim 14 stands rejected as obvious over LIN and $$\tt EHRENREICH\ 2003/0121123.$

Claims 19 and 20 stand rejected as obvious over LIN in view of HIGSON 4,703,944.

These rejections are moot in view of the below-discussed amendments.

Docket No. 2553-1015 Appln. No. 10/574,103

Amendments

Claim 24 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 23.

Claim 25 has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim 11.

Base claim 11 has been amended to include allowable claim 15.

Since the Official Action stated that claims 15, 24 and 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, allowance of claims 11, 24, and 25 is solicited.

Allowance of the dependent claims is also solicited.

The amendment is believed to be fully responsive.

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Docket No. 2553-1015 Appln. No. 10/574,103

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

/Roland E. Long, Jr./
Roland E. Long, Jr., Reg. No. 41,949
209 Madison Street, Suite 500
Alexandria, VA 22314
Telephone (703) 521-2297
Telefax (703) 685-0573
(703) 979-4709

REL/msd